

11 September 1963

Daily LogCASAS Rodriguez 0503
@PAULMERT

1. Because CASAS did not call before 1:30 hours, PEARY called him at his firm in accordance with arrangements made last night. CASAS said 05 that his chief would not release him for the several days required for the Mexico trip. On being asked if he objected to our discussing the situation with his chief, CASAS said that he had no objections, but he 05 did express concern about his job. He was assured that his job was not to be jeopardized. On further query, CASAS said that he would make the 05 trip if we could get the approval of his chief.

2. In the meantime, SAS/Security came up with information on CASAS 05 firm, and especially on his chief, HALLOCK, and by mid afternoon, got a clearance permitting us to discuss our utilization of CASAS with HALLOCK. 06 06

HALLOCK, Houghton Ross, Col. (Ret.) [SR 020612] 08
 DOB: 28 May 1916
 Add: North 24th Street, Camp Hill, Pa. 08
 Tel: 737-7875
 Mil. Ser.: West Point [1937] Engineering
 Retired 30 June 1952 09
 Legion of Merit
 Bronze Star, Oak Leaf Cluster
 Occupation: Director of General Engineering Division,
 Gannett, Fleming, Corddry and Carpenter, Inc.] 29
 600 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg, Pa.
 Tel: 238-0451 06
 @NIELSEN

3. Before batting up to Harrisburg to talk to HALLOCK, we telephoned him at his office to inquire as to his availability. He was, however, already well aware of our concern, having discussed the matter with CASAS 05 at noon (apparently just after we called CASAS and mentioned that we would 05 contact his chief). Although we pointed out clearly that CASAS was required 05 to provide vital assistance in an effort of considerable value to the U.S. Government, HALLOCK replied that his firm also had a priority requirement of importance involving the Government of Costa Rica: in connection with this job, Costa Rica had sent an engineer to deal with the firm; this engineer would be in Harrisburg until the end of the month. CASAS' absence would 05 result in inactivity on the part of this engineer, and every day lost would be contrary to the requirements of the contract between the firm 06 and the Government of Costa Rica. HALLOCK added that CASAS had told him 05 that he did not want to leave his assignment. (Although HALLOCK was probably 05 refusing CASAS' services through self - his firm's - interest, I feel that 05 CASAS definitely asked HALLOCK to put up as strong a resistance to his 06 06

11-334049

11 Sept 63

RETURN TO CIA
 Background Use Only
 Do Not Reproduce

29/BR

release as possible.)

05 4. In view of HALLOCK's polite but firm refusal to release CASAS, and CASAS' evident reluctance to do this job, it was decided not to bring additional pressure on CASAS' firm to get him released. HALLOCK will be carded appropriately. (Also, MEXI has an agent with good access to AZCUE whom they are obviously eager to use for the pitch effort.) 06

REF ID: A334089

P.2

4/BR